THE MERIDIAN
SWAVESEY

No. 216 October/November 2025

EDITORIAL

'This is the "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" as John Keats wrote in his poem *'To Autumn'* and the hymn *'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come'*, contains the lines, "All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin". Please stay safe as the nights draw in especially when the clocks change on Sunday October 26 and it gets dark earlier in the evenings.

We understand there is some confusion regarding phone numbers. The UK mobile phone prefix is 07, followed by 9 digits.

We are now using a different commercial printer for the magazine and they require that we book time on their litho press in advance and also state the number of pages in each issue. It is therefore very important that you stick to the deadline or request a short delay in submitting articles so we can be certain of the page count as soon as possible.

Unfortunately we must now reject articles submitted after the deadline unless permission has been given by the Editor. (editor@swaveseymeridian.org.uk)

The deadline for the December/January issue is **October 20**

Ed

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Front Cover - by Peter Morris	
Inside Front Cover - by Edwin Parish	
Inside Back Cover - by Peter Morris	
Back Cover - Community Warden Poster	
Editorial	page 1
Meridian Committee	page 2
Major Events List	page 3
Dates for your diary and forthcoming events	page 4
Club Reports	Page 5-10
Miscellany	page 11-17
Medical News	Page 19
School Information	page 21-23
Parish and County news	page 24-28
Churches	Page 29-34
Community Groups & Charities table	page 35
Club Information	page 36-38
Advertiser	Page 39-54
Advert Costs, Major Events & Birthday forms	Page 54-55
Useful Telephone Numbers	page 56

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Major Events List

This list is intended to avoid major events clashing on the same day. It will only work if we are advised of all such events, so please let us know as soon as you can confirm the details.

A form is available at the back of this magazine. We will list them in this section of the Magazine and also on our website at:- www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

Saturday 15 November	Alison Martin Mob 07719 624201	Christmas Craft Market 10-4pm Memorial Hall - Refreshments, Tombola - Proceeds to Over Day Centre
Saturday 13 December	Bethel Baptist	Market St Carols from 5pm
Saturday 21 March 2026	Swavesey Camera Club	Spring Exhibition 10am - 4pm in Swavesey Memorial Hall Contact Simon Shore Mob. 07711 485114 Email simonshore99@gmtail.com
Friday 10 July 2026	The Pantaloons Outdoor Theatre	Sherlock Homes and the Hound of the Baskervilles 7pm at Market St Green - Contact Simon Shore Mob. 07711 485114 Email simonshore99@gmtail.com

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October		
Friday 3	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Thursday 9	Parish Council	Planning Meeting
Friday 10	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Friday 17	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Friday 24	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Monday 27	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Friday 31	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
November		
Friday 7	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Thursday 13	Parish Council	Planning Meeting
	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Saturday 15	Christmas Craft Market - Contact- Alison Martin - Mob 07719 624201	10-4pm Memorial Hall - Refreshments, Tombola - Proceeds to Over Day Centre
Friday 21	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Monday 24	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Friday 28	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection

CLUB REPORTS

IN FULL SWING AGAIN

We are almost half way to Christmas already, hope everyone is enjoying our Autumn programme, something to cheer us all up now we are all back suffering long dark evenings; if you can't make it to the college one can always sign up on Zoom, great on nasty wet nights, toasty and warm in a comfy chair, and as much wine as one chooses, no chance of a drink driving charge on the dreaded A14.

October starts with the Annual PDI Competition on 2nd, judged by our old friend, Daphne Hanson. Let's hope the entries include many jolly, colourful images from our expeditions in the hot Summer we have enjoyed this year. Only a few days later, on October 7th, we are off to St Ives for a 'Friendly' with our closest neighbours, always keenly contested. One more club competition is planned for October 23rd, the Monochrome Trophy, judged by another old friend, David Steel. November 13th is the date for our next set subject, 'VERY BIG and very small ', lots of opportunities for interesting topics and techniques. This will be judged by Clive Hayward. To help in selection there will be an Advisory Zoom meeting at 7:30 on Tuesday 29th October. In advance of the Colour Print Competition next month there is another Advisory Zoom meeting, 7:30 on 18th November.

Now time to sit back and be entertained. We have several talks booked, of interest to everyone, so if any non-members are keen to come along, please do, there is a very small entry fee. 7:00 pm SVC.

October 9th	Nightscapes	Paul Haworth.
October 16th	Wider World of Photography	Ashley Franklin.
November 6th	From the Ordinary to the Extraordinary . Part 2	Bob Brínd-Surch.
November 20th	Members Night	
November 27th	Intentional Camera Movement	Sara Rawlinson.

Hope to see you soon,
Mo Hadfield
Swavesey Camera Club
www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk

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Following the success of Spartans Day, our teams enjoyed a brief but much-needed summer break. This pause helps everyone return refreshed and eager for the new season.

Unfortunately, the prolonged dry spell over the summer severely affected the three pitches at the village green. Wide cracks rendered them unsafe, halting training and matches for both our club and the Men's Institute, disrupting pre-season preparations. We're hopeful for a swift resolution and that play has returned by the time you're reading this.

In more positive news, this season marks the debut of our U7 team in "competitive" football. It's important to note that mini league teams don't have published league tables. The focus is on participation, enjoyment, and development. Results are used solely by the FA to reassess league placements over Christmas, ensuring teams play at appropriate levels. We wish our U7s a fulfilling season.

We've also launched sessions for our new mixed U5/U6 team. Numbers are currently modest, and we encourage all parents or carers of boys and girls interested in joining our vibrant, inclusive club to contact us via our website to sign up.

Looking ahead to the 2026/27 season, the FA will introduce the Future Fit programme for all U7 teams. This mandatory initiative will feature 3v3 non-competitive match sessions, built around four key aims:

1. Providing children with varied opportunities to play and enhanced contact time
2. Encouraging coaching that nurtures both player and person.
3. Creating safe, inclusive, and fun environments on and off the pitch.
4. Supporting families in making football a positive and safe experience for all children.

We fully support this programme and look forward to its implementation.

In other club news, our dedicated treasurer Amanda will be stepping down at the end of this season. We're incredibly grateful for her continued support and are actively seeking a replacement. Additionally, the vice chairperson role is currently vacant. If you're interested in either position, please reach out via our website.

Finally, as a small village club, our revenue generation is limited and relies solely on signing-on fees and funds raised during Spartans Day. Our outgoing expenses include pitch hire at Elsworth and Fen Drayton, coach's training courses, DBS checks, pitch maintenance (cutting and lining six pitches), pavilion use, costly 3G facilities during winter, referee fees, and essential equipment like footballs, benches, and first aid kits. With three of our teams moving to a newly sourced 9v9 pitch at Elsworth, we also need to provide new FA approved goals at a cost to the club of over £2000. A significant outlay for us. We really would like to hear from local businesses who may be interested in providing sponsorship. If you are a local business and interested in sponsoring an individual team or the club, please contact us through our website.

One Club. All Voices. United Through Football.

News from Hale Road Allotments.

Like all gardeners we at the allotments have struggled with the lack of rain and high temperatures this summer, and wonder if this is the shape of things to come in the future. It's not all doom and gloom though. Our plot holders have still managed to grow some wonderful fruit, vegetables and flowers on their plots. Hopefully many of the village came along to our produce sale in September and sampled some of the things we grow.

Having an allotment is such a great hobby. Not only do you get your own fresh produce but also plenty of exercise in the fresh air, and the company and friendship of other likeminded people.

We have half and full plots on our site. The good news is that the waiting list is very short at the moment. So if the idea of an allotment appeals to you and you think you could give it enough time, then give me a ring, (my details are in the club information section) and put your name on the list. You could be eating your own produce soon!

Val (Chair Hale Road Allotments)

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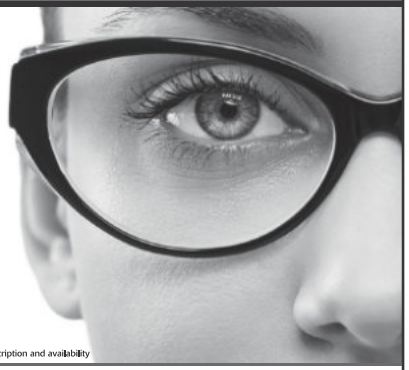

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Swavesey WI News

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Meetings coming up……..	
October 13th	"Food, Farming and Fishing". Talk by Jenny Jefferies.
November 10th	Christmas Cards and Paper Craft Workshop.
December 8th	Christmas Celebrations.

In August, our members met up for a Summer Picnic Evening on the Market Street Green. The committee served drinks and we had a good attendance with lots of chat and food.

Swavesey WI host Compass Cafe on the 4th Thursday of the month. We always have a wonderful selection of homemade cakes and good coffee and if you would like to know more about what your local WI gets up to, come along and meet us to find out more!! Look forward to seeing you there!

For more information please ring Glesny Sheppard 01954 201731 /Deirdre Burgess 01954 230897.

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Swavesey & District History Society
(On 21 October; Bedrooms, Banquets and Balls)

Year after year our programme contains a wide variety of expert speakers and interesting local subjects. Earlier in 2025 the topics included –

- A very English dynasty: Four generations of the D'Oyly Carte family.
- The Spinning House: How Cambridge University locked-up women in their private prison
- Mud, blood and bandages.

The History Society meets at 7.30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month in The Carol Shaw Room at Swavesey Village College – through the main entrance then 20 metres along the corridor to the right. No need to book so you are welcome to just walk in. If you want further information, contact our Secretary, Carolyn Redmayne, on 01954 230037.

The new season started in September with Arsenic's toxic legacy by Neil Dickinson. Bedrooms, Banquets and Balls on 21 October is by John Vigar, then we end the season on 16 June 2026 when Selwyn tells us about Houghton Watermill on the Great Ouse.

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MISCELLANY

Summer Outdoor Theatre; The Pantaloons

July saw the return of our regular travelling theatre group "The Pantaloons" with their (slightly irreverent) take on Jane Austins' "Sense and Sensibility".

Our midsummer visit from "The Pantaloons" has become a regular village event in the Swavesey Calendar with their unique blend of classical theatre, a generous dose of improvisation and audience participation.

Many thanks to all who came to support the show- over 160 people came and the event has raised £320 donated to the Over Day Care Centre.

The Pantaloons return to Swavesey **next summer on July 10th** with their version **of Sherlock Holmes and the Hound of the Baskervilles**. In the meantime you can follow them on social media or at https://thepantaloons.co.uk.

Simon Shore.

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Will Wright Memories

We returned to our base in Switzerland to discover that the management team had booked us in to the local recording studio for almost 3 weeks for us to record an album's worth of material as they had completed a deal with the studio & it's manager, who was a German singer having written & recorded a few songs himself and having made a few marks invested it in the studio at the top of the lake. We were not exactly expecting this but given the agreements we had made with them all we were ready to go ahead and get our music on some plastic!

We had all made a few "demo tapes" in the UK with a couple of songs on each of them but had never been in a full scale studio as this which had a 16 channel recording desk and so much additional equipment and in addition 2 English technicians to see us along the route. I soon realised that once the drum & base rythmn section of any relevant song was complete it would give me time to sit at the back of the control room and observe the engineers using the additional " Toys " to produce a full completed musical section until it was time to get back on board with any required percussion. It was indeed a rapid learning curve, but one which I was to utilise so much in my future working life. About 2 1/2 half weeks later we were rapidly approaching time for the final mixing of the recordings.

The management team then told us that they had been approached by a major French agency who would like us to go up to Paris and perform for 3 days in their central club & they would supply accommodation in a neighbouring hotel, Seemed like a good ideas as the intention was to open up a fresh sales market in a large country which also had many colonial regions in addition to the mainland.

Prior to us leaving Switzerland we were advised to ensure that we all had our passports stamped on exit in case we later needed to prove that we did not have a permanent residential situation without application. We were allowed a 3 month stay which could be renewed so long as it was deemed to be a renewal rather than an extension. Of course if you had a couple of million in the bank this, and other regulations could be by-passed .

So off we went to Paris, with all our stamped passports, I can't remember whether the hotel was just off the "Plas de la Concorde" or the Plas de la Republiique" but it was a fine little hotel and was only about 5 minutes walk from the venue and pretty much in the centre of the city. I have to say that I was in my element in France as I had studied the language & received an "A" level pass which was making life in the country a little bit easier.

We had 3 nightly shows at the club, which could be best described as very similar to the 'Marquee" club in Wardour Street, London.

The management gang back in Switzerland had by then arranged a further couple of gigs in Geneva which fitted in nicely for the Journey back to the Biel base in "De Schweiz"

When Paddy & I had joined the Surrey Gang, they were moving around in a Ford Zephyr Zodiac which was definitely rapidly approaching the latter days of its life, especially considering the rapid increase in mileage we were covering. Lo & behold we were discussing this with the new French Agent who had come to see us in Paris when he said "well I can see a lot of mileage coming up for you so I'll see what I can do", and before we knew it we had a French registered 3 litre American Ford Galaxy which comfortably accommodated 8 people & luggage! Meanwhile our roadie, Reg who had been using a 3 litre long wheel base Ford Transit was now using a 7 1/2 Tun Bedford truck.

SWAVESEY LIBRARY

is your local voluntary run community library.

Swavesey library moved to a new location within Swavesey Village College in January this year. Since then, we have slowly been developing our plans for this new space. We hope that by the time you read this article we will have installed a wonderful new children's corner with bright modern shelving, kinder boxes, new seating and loads more books.

Are your children taking part in this year's summer reading challenge "The Garden Story"? If not, then you still have until mid-September to join and complete the challenge. Loads of books to read, lots of online activities, quizzes and suggestions on books to read. Don't wait, come along to Swavesey Library today and join the thousands of children who take part in these wonderful reading challenges each year.

Both good reasons to pop along to Swavesey Library and immerse yourself in the wonderful world of books.

We are open: -
Tuesday afternoons 3.30pm -5.30pm,
Wednesday evenings 5pm – 7pm and
Saturday mornings 10 – 12 noon.

The entrance into Swavesey Library is on the right hand side of the Gibraltar Lane car park. Just follow the library signs into the college and along the corridor past the new college kitchen to our new location. The old Stage area within the old hall

For further information; - see our website:
http://www.swavesey.org.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
Facebook at Swavesey Village Life or contact
Richard at Richard94hart@gmail.com / 01954 202707 or
Doug at Doughuntuk@yahoo.co.uk / 01954 232478.

Selwyn's Alphanumeric Quiz. Part 5.

The verbal numbers quiz is sometimes dismissed as too easy to do. Since Selwyn does not take kindly to criticism, this month's version is somewhat more challenging. Example 1: 18 H on a GC. 18 Holes on a Golf Course. Example 2: 23 R C. H of T H. 23 Railway Cuttings. Home of Tony Hancock

1	2001	A S O	6	9	L of a C
2	1	P in a P T	7	39	B in the O T
3	88	P K	8	14	P in a S
4	1760	Y in a M	9	7	D and S W
5	54	C in a D (with Js)	10	24	B B in a P

You will find the answers to this puzzle on page28

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Compass Café is run as a community event, a place to meet and chat. Your hosts are a group from one of:
Bethel Baptist Church, Girlguiding Units in Swavesey, Swavesey Primary School PTA, St Andrew's Church and Swavesey Women's Institute.

When there is a 5th Thursday in the month other groups are invited to run the café to fundraise. Please get in touch with Sue Ellington if you would like to know more.
sue.ellington@virgin.net or phone 07774 146331
All the 5th Thursdays in 2025 are now booked.
Future 5th Thursday dates in 2026: 29th Jan, 30th Jul, 29th Oct

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"Volunteering with us isn't just about campfires and helping girls to get their next badge - although those are special moments. It's about empowering girls and giving them new experiences. It's helping girls realise their own potential, sharing and developing your skills, all while having the time of your life."

Volunteer for Girlguiding and share everything that's awesome about you with the women of the future.

girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer

email caroline@overroad.co.uk if you would like to know more

Please sign your daughters up early for Rainbows here: girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
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Breakfast Club 7.30 am - 8.55 am

3+ year olds to Year 6 children: £6 per child per session

After School Club 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm

For Reception to Year 6 children: £12 per child, family rate £11 per child

Early Years 9.00 am to 3.00 pm (full day) or morning (9-12/1) or afternoon (12-3)

For 2½ year olds to 4 year olds

Places for funded children up to 30 hours per week

Charged sessions:-

3+ year olds £15 half-day and £30 full-day.

2 years and 6 months £17 am only

£5 for lunch hour (12-1)

For more information and to register:-

www.swavesey.cambs.sch.uk *(Select EY & P)*

9.30 am – 10.15 am
Music Theory classes for ALL
10.15 am – 11.00 am
Little Rockets for 3-9 yrs
Join the Band & Find your voice!
Swavesey Music School
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
The BIG Rock School for Drummers, vocalists or guitarists with some experience or have been playing for some time aged 10 yrs+
10.15 am – 11:00 am
The BIG Sing!
(aka Choir/Sing up – 7 – 77yrs! ALL AGES)
11am – 12pm
The BIG Orchestra!
An opportunity for children, parents, adults & community in an orchestra together.
Everyone welcome... beginners to experienced players!
Swavesey Music School
admin@swaveseymusic.co.uk
Swavesey Village College CB24 4RS

PARISH & COUNTY NEWS

From Your DC Sue Ellington

Hello Swavesey Residents

The Boxworth Turn Development includes the building of a logistic site where lorries can be unloaded to redistribute their goods on the right hand side opposite to the service area. The initial proposal is currently being developed with some discussion with local Parish Councils. The concerns raised are significant and are being worked through by all parties. However at this stage there are no firm plans but I am sure I will be talking about this in the future.

The consultation on the various geographical options for the new Unitary Authority(ies) has closed. The Council leaders from all District and County Authorities will now put forward their proposals to the Government in November. We believe the Government will make their decision about which option to choose in the new year. At the moment it is believed that the District and Parish elections will be held as planned in May but this could be changed. Again there are many decisions and changes to be decided and I will keep you informed.

The Council has decided to make the 4 day week into a permanent contract with all staff despite many concerns raised by residents. They feel that it has increased recruitment, given staff a greater work life balance and that the key indicators have not significantly decreased. Council members raised a number of issues including the fact that the research figures carried a warning that some of the data used is based on insufficient numbers and the savings on agency staff were not reduced. I feel that there was insufficient base data on which to determine any changes in service delivery and insufficient responses to produce any valid judgement on success or failure. But in principle I feel it creates a negative perception of council workers which is unjustified and a negative attitude from the council tax payer to the council.

On a more positive note several Swavesey based organisations have received Grants from the council to improve the village. Can I encourage other organisations to look at the long list of grant opportunities on the website and fill out an application. The criteria for each is available - see if you fit in. The district authority is going to be discontinued - so are the grants - take your opportunity.

So as usual, give me a ring on 07774 146331 (my home line is disconnected) or send me an email to cllr.Ellington@scambs.gov.uk if I can help in any way.

Best wishes

Sue Ellington

District Councillor for Swavesey Ward

The Thomas Galon Charity

Are you aware of this village charity which has been supporting the community, primarily elderly residents, for many hundreds of years?

In 1528 Thomas Galon left agricultural land in his Will for the benefit of the community of Swavesey. A charity was set up enabling the land to be rented out and the income used to help those in need.

Since then the charity has provided winter fuel grants to elderly residents, grants to various local charities and hospices whose services benefit residents of Swavesey and individual grants to residents for various support services (within the charity scheme).

Energy Grant

An Energy Grant Scheme is available for elderly residents. Under this scheme, residents who are aged 70 or over and have lived in the village for 2 years or more can apply to the Thomas Galon Charity for an energy grant, to help with rising energy costs. At the November meeting, Trustees will then consider the amount of grant, depending on funds available, to be paid in the December.

An application form is available if you wish to apply for assistance from this scheme. Please contact the Clerk to the Trustees, Linda Miller at: thomasgaloncharity@swavesey.org.uk or call 01954 202982.

The charity trustees meet twice a year in April and November. Grants can be provided to residents for assistance with medical and wellbeing services or items, in particular for elderly residents. Applications can be made in confidence to the charity to be considered at either of these meetings. Please do call the Clerk or talk to any of the trustees if you would like to find out more.

Clerk: Linda Miller email: thomasgaloncharity@swavesey.org.uk
tel: 01954 202982

Austin Day, Chairman (01954 230050)

Ben Baker	James Dodson
Ollie Hodson	Bridget Lofts
Hannah Parish	Dudley Morgan
Rob Wick	Will Wright

Further history on the charity can be found on the charity website
www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/the-thomas-galon-charity/

August 2025

SWAVESEY PARISH

Parish Council News July/August 2025

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Following a notice of co-option Mr Paul Twinn was co-opted onto the Council at the August meeting.

County Council Business

Following a major reorganisation within the CCC Highways Team, we are expecting new Highways staff at the County Council from 1st September, so will hopefully have the return of an Area Highways Liaison Officer to follow up on outstanding maintenance issues.

The past couple of months have seen a lot of road closures around the village (and other areas of S Cambs) for gas main replacement work. Although some will have been completed there are still partial or total road closures planned for October in both High Street and Middle Watch for utility connection/replacement works, please look for reminders and details on the Parish Council website at www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk

Traffic Calming Projects

- The 20mph limit proposals are now being finalised by the CCC Road Safety Team and formal consultation will be published by CCC shortly.
- Boxworth End-Ramper Rd scheme is being amended to include a giveway feature in Boxworth End. Updated plans to show the location are awaited and will be published on the PC website.
- Speedwatch. After the completion of training the team have commenced a programme of spot checks around the village. Any additional volunteers are always welcome.

Guided Busway fencing. Following the recent HSE report to the County Council, permanent fencing alongside the entire route of the busway is being arranged. Parish Councils are being consulted with regard to formal and informal crossing points of the busway and how this will affect those crossings. Your PC is involved with these discussions.

Flooding of the Busway track. As part of the above discussions, CCC is also investigating a pontoon arrangement, to ensure that the busway track remains open during winter flooding, in particular the section alongside the Trout Pond through the Nature Reserve. Again your PC is involved in the discussions which will look at safety and accessibility for all users.

The PC continues to liaise with our County Councillor to discuss all the outstanding issues.

COUNCIL NEWS

Drainage

The PC continues to monitor any progress with the repair of the Brownshill and St Ives staunches by the Environment Agency (EA), although we have no further updates at the current time. The PC will be taking part in discussions with the County's Flood Team later this year to look in detail at flood risk around this area.

Boxworth Gateway Proposal

In July proposals were published by Newlands Developments for a large distribution and business park on land south west of the Swavesey A14 junction. Swavesey is working alongside other local villages to raise objections and concerns over the proposals, which (at time of writing) are not yet at planning application stage. Concerns are being raised over increased traffic, HGVs, safety around the A14 junction and the surface and foul water implications on the Swavesey drainage system amongst other issues.

A14

The PC attended the first of a series of Safety Advisory Group meetings regarding traffic around the A14, organised by National Highways. These will take place quarterly to raise issues around traffic, safety and maintenance.

Village maintenance & Projects

Our continued thanks to the Swavesey Litter Pickers who continue to do a sterling job, please remember that there are many litter bins around the village for your use, so please use them.

The PC will be commissioning a full H&S survey on all of the trees on Parish owned land, to update the last survey of a few years ago and to ensure that our trees are safe and well maintained.

Due to the extremely dry spring and summer the clay soil on the Recreation Green has been opening up and drainage channels sinking. The PC has been monitoring this and arranging for the deeper cracks to be filled. Unfortunately this has also meant it has been unsafe for football to be played on there until we have significant rain to change the conditions. The PC has liaised with the Football Clubs and Village College re additional use of the artificial turf pitches at the College.

Further details on everything that is discussed at the Parish Council meetings can be found in the Minutes or on the Council's website at:
www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk

Swavesey Parish Council	Website: swavesey-pc.gov.uk	
Parish Councillors	**Telephone (01954)**	**E-mail address**
Doug Hunt (Chairman)	232478	dhunt@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Colin Parsons (Vice-Chair)	610357	cparsons@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Lisa Boyes	07747 002296	lboyes@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
James Dodson	230560	jdodson@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Martin Johnston	200605	mjohnston@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Warren Wright	203172	wwright@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Jonathan Kerley	231304	jkerley@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Rachel Vollerthun	07312 102526	rvollerthun@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Ellington	202923 / 07774 146331	sellington@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Rogers	0777 224 7673	srogers@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Paul Twinn	01954 488578	ptwinn@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Clerk: Linda Miller	202982 / 07458 302193	clerk@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
District Councillor: Sue Ellington	07774 146331	cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor: Chris Poulton Papworth & Swavesey Ward	Chris.Poulton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/county-councillors	
Memorial Hall Administrator: Nicole Mullee	07963 861791	memorialhall@swavesey.org.uk

Swavesey Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month for Planning items and on the 4th Monday of each month for Full Council.

All meetings are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. There is always a 10 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

Answers to Selwyn's Alphanumeric Quiz on page 16

1	2001	A S O	2001 A Space Odyssey
2	1	P in a P T	1 Partridge in a Pear Tree
3	88	P K	88 Piano Keys
4	1760	Y in a M	1760 Yards in a Mile
5	54	C in a D (with Js)	54 Cards in a Deck (with Jokers)
6	9	L of a C	9 Lives of a Cat
7	39	B in the O T	39 Books in the Old Testament
8	14	P in a S	14 Pounds in a Stone
9	7	D and S W	7 Dwarves and Snow White
10	24	B B in a P	24 Blackbirds Baked in a Pie

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(+44) 1480 462 192

e- mail:
office@sacredheart-stives.org.uk

Website:
www.sacredheart-stives.org.uk/the-church-hall

SACRED HEART OF JESUS
Roman-Catholic Parish
19 Needingworth Road, St Ives, Cambs. PE27 5JT

Priest in Charge: Fr Trindade J Monteiro

Tel: 01480 462 192
www.sacredheart-stives.org.uk
email: office@sacredheart-stives.org.uk

Mass Times:
Saturday 17.00 (Anticipatory)
Sunday 09.00 and 11.00

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St Andrew's Church

Services at St Andrew's
Please join us for worship at 11am on any Sunday morning. At 8pm on the first Thursday of every month, we have fifteen minutes of silence and prayer followed by Compline remembering the people of Ukraine and other countries affected by war.

Special Services
Harvest Festival: Sunday, October 12th at 11am

Remembrance Sunday: Sunday, 9th November at 10:50am

Christingle Service (collection in support of the Children's Society): Sunday, 30th November at 4:30pm

You can find information about all our services and events on Facebook and online at A Church near You: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2834/service-and-events/events-all/

Ministry Team:
Rev'd Stephen Dove (Team Rector): stephen@5folds.org.uk
Rev'd Ed Green (Team Vicar): ed@5folds.org.uk
Canon Jan Payne (Licensed Lay Minister): jan.payne@northstowe.church
Colin Smith (Benefice Administrator): 01954 203459
admin@5folds.org.uk
(Colin works Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am to noon)
Churchwardens Jacqui Fuller: 01954 230774 and Bridget Lofts: 01954 231068

Diddy Disciples Sunday School
This is our Sunday School for younger children. We sing songs, draw and make things and most of all, learn about Jesus. We meet every Sunday at the back of church. Do join us.

Events at St Andrew's: Dates for your Diary
Fun in the Pews: Saturday, October 18th: 2pm – 4pm
An afternoon of fun activities for all the family. Further details will be available on social media nearer the date.

St Andrew's Church

Would you be interested in being part of a 'Friends of St Andrew's Church' group?

St Andrew's Church has been an integral part of the community of Swavesey since the 13th Century. Like many parish churches, it has been more than a place to worship. We hope to see it continue in this role for centuries to come. To do this we are asking our community to help support us in this vision. Perhaps St Andrew's is important to you as:

- A place for baptisms, weddings and funerals?
- A major architectural feature of the village and part of village history?
- A place where loved ones are buried or ashes are interred?
- A place where events are held?

As a Swavesey resident, or someone with a connection to the village, if you do value St Andrew's would you be willing to help support its building and churchyard? Responsibility for their care is funded solely by the local congregation past and present. Many churches now have Friends groups that raise money towards their upkeep and care by running events or by offering practical support. This helps ensure the church is there for future generations.

We would like to invite you to a meeting at St Andrew's Church at 3pm on Sunday 5th October to discuss establishing a Friends of St Andrews group. Please come and join us. Colin Smith, chair of the very active "Friends of St Mary's, Over" will be present to tell us of his experience.

If you're interested but can't make the date, please let us know by emailing Roger Holland at rogerwk.holland1@gmail.com so we can keep you informed of how things progress.

Larry Amure
On behalf of St Andrew's PCC

BETHEL
BAPTIST CHURCH

Club Vintage - Wednesdays 2-4pm

A warm welcome awaits older people and the club is dementia-friendly. There is a small £3 weekly charge. Enjoy a rotating variety of activities such as chair-based exercise, singing, bible-based crafts, quizzes, games and entertainment from others.

Compass Café - Thursdays 10:30am-12pm

Compass Café "Encompasses the community"

You will receive a very warm welcome at our community run cafe. Enjoy reasonably priced coffee, tea and homemade cakes.

LITTLE LIGHTS - Fridays 10am-12pm

Baby & toddler group. All are welcome, bumps, babies, toddlers, parents and carers. Drop in at anytime for as long as you need. Only £2 per family, including drinks & snacks for all! We hope you can come along and join us!

The Hub - Youth Group - Fridays 7-9pm

THE HUB

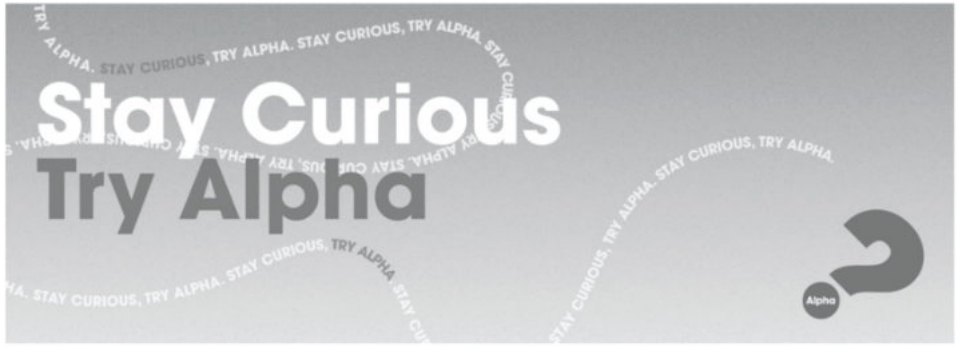
Open to all year 6 and secondary aged children. Come along and meet up with friends, chat, play games, listen to music and much more! Snack bar also available. £1 entry fee. Parents must complete a permission form.

Craft & Chat - 1st Saturday of every month 10am-12pm

Bring along your craft and share a cuppa! Whatever it is you are working on, (whether knitting or cross stitch, painting or scrap booking) come and enjoy a relaxed Saturday morning with other crafters.

Sunday Services - Sundays 10:45am

You are warmly invited to join us for our weekly services followed by coffee in our compass room. Our services are open to all and are family friendly with children's Sunday School groups for all ages! Every first Sunday of the month is our alternative all age, café-style service which include refreshments around tables, conversation and maybe even some crafts! We have a special Communion service once a month on the 3rd Sunday. At Bethel we are brought together by our Faith, but what truly makes us family is our passion to serve God and love one another through every season.



Curious about faith?

Then Alpha may be for you and it's coming to Swavesey this autumn, starting on October 7th!

Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. At each Alpha session, after a meal together you'll watch a video which unpacks the basics of the Christian faith in an engaging way, each one looking at a different question of faith. Then in a small group, you'll have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything you like, or nothing at all.

Everyone's welcome; you're invited, no matter your background or beliefs. There's no charge and no pressure to come back. Our team can't wait to welcome you. Whatever age or stage of life you are, we would love you to join us.

Alpha will be hosted at Bethel Baptist Church, 111 Middlewatch, Swavesey CB24 4RP, on Tuesday evenings at 7pm starting on October 7th.

Book your place now by

- scanning the **QR code**
- calling **07863 299545**
- emailing **karen.smith@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk**

Save the Date! Swavesey Village Carols are returning to Market Street on Saturday 13th December 2025 from 5pm. Look out for more details nearer the time!

CONTACT US

Pastor Bob - pastorbob@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sue Hope (Secretary) - secretary@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Charlotte Holmár (Administrator) - admin@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk

www.bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk *www.facebook.co.uk/SwaveseyBethel*

Dead End Roads

Have you ever been on a dead-end road? I'm sure all of us at one time or another have been looking for a house we are to visit, followed the GPS and have ended up in a road that goes nowhere. Or maybe we have entered a deal that has been a dead end, I have had my share of them. I used to own a Datsun Cherry 100A, it was bright yellow, and we called it the yellow peril, it was one of those cars that just went wrong. The brakes were always sticking, the driver's window kept falling off the rack, the battery died, and because I could not afford a new one, I had to carry a borrowed spare and a set of jump leads. Then, the gear linkage gave out so that I couldn't get into reverse! Imagine what that was like in a dead end or a car park, too often I had to get out and push! I remember too what it was like when my wife went into labour, and I had to drive her over thirty miles to hospital. Getting there was an adventure! When we got to the car park driving in was fine, but manoeuvring was an ordeal…
Whenever I drove that car, I felt vulnerable because something always happened, and driving was never a pleasure because I was always waiting for it to fail in some way.

Similarly, it's true to say that besetting circumstances have a way of blinding us to the reality of the potential there is in life. Our focus shifts during these times onto our problems and it feels that circumstances and the famous 'they' are pressing the advantage to keep us down.

The danger to us personally as we feel the impudence of it all, is to ignore the risk and make hasty decisions when in fact there is a need for us to be still, take stock and make a considered decision. Think for a second and reflect, focussing on our current difficulties brings about tunnel vision that prevents us from seeing any possibilities.

Parting company with my 'yellow peril' was a relief, but the lessons I learned of coping and seeing beyond the difficulties has made me positive about the possibilities there are if we just take a moment.

The kettle is on, come over for a chat.

Pastor Bob Adams
Bethel Baptist Church

Community Groups & Charities

Swavesey Sustainability Hub	The Sustainability Hub is a community group that offers space and support for people to realise their ideas for a more sustainable way of life. Contact: rvollerthun@gmail.com Website: www.thesustainabilityhub.biz
Sheddit!	Sheddit! is the community shed for Swavesey and surrounding areas. The group works on a range of projects and welcome new members who enjoy making things from wood and metal. Contact: Phil Cohen 07957 422292 Website: https://shareborrowconnect.org/
Cam Sight	Cam Sight is a local charity which offers support to anyone with a visual impairment, along with their family and carers. We meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in Bar Hill. For more information please telephone Joan in Bar Hill on 01954 200622 or Alison at Cam Sight on 01223 420033 or email alison@camsight.org.uk. For more info see:- www.camsight.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help	CHH is a charity that helps people with hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries and they attend Swavesey quarterly at Thistle Green. Advice on any aspects of hearing loss is available at a hearing help session or by calling the office on 01223 416141, E-mail: enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk Website: cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk
Care Network	Care Network supports volunteers, encourages independence and develops good neighbour projects. We provide the Welcome Home from Hospital service across Cambridgeshire. Contact:- Care Network, 5 Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge, CB23 7QJ (tel: 01954 211919). Website: care-network.org.uk/
Compass Cafe	Meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 until 12.00 at Bethel Baptist Church. Contact Sue Ellington on 01954 202923 or sue.ellington@virgin.net
Dog Lovers of Swavesey	Dog Lovers of Swavesey is a friendly group where anyone with a love for dogs is welcome with or without dog. Meetings are on the Recreation Green organised through the Facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/dogloversofswavesey where we also exchange tips, ask for advice or have a laugh. Resources are gathered at https://dogloversofswavesey.co.uk/. Contact: Matt at matthewyoung1@btinternet.com or Anita at anita.faul@outlook.com" Tel 01954 232791
Swavesey Library	A volunteer run community library based in Swavesey Village College. We are able to providing a full range of library facilities being directly linked to the Cambridgeshire County Council library service. For more info see:- https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH)	Put your free time to good use and volunteer at East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) in Milton. Volunteering at a children's hospice doesn't always mean care work and fundraising as there are also tasks such as admin and maintenance of the grounds. Contact:- Clare Bates on 01223 815134, Email: clare.bates@each.org.uk
OWLS Community Car Scheme	Run by DBS checked volunteers the scheme offers a door-to-door service, for medical or some social journeys, to people who are unable to access other forms of transport. Ring 07505 254363 to book a journey, find out more, or to volunteer as a driver Website: https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/owls-community-car-scheme/

CLUB INFORMATION

Army Cadets UK	Swavesey Detachment, No 2 (Cromwell) Company, Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force meets each Tuesday evening at the Swavesey Village College from 7 pm. New recruits are welcomed from ages 12 years (year 8) to 18 years. www.armycadets.com/county/cambridgeshire-acf/
Swavesey Five-a-Side Football Club	Currently seeking new members for this long-established club. We play each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the new sports hall at Swavesey Village College. Enquiries to Stewart Smith (07803 050234).
Swavesey Girlguiding	<table><tr><th>Unit</th><th>Evening</th><th>Contact</th></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rainbows</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>caroline@overroad.co.uk</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Mondays</td><td>swaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Wednesdays</td><td>secondswaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Guides</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyguides@gmail.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rangers</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyrangers@gmail.com</td></tr></table>
Swavesey Spartans	Swavesey Spartans (swaveseyspartans.co.uk) is a Chartered Standard Football Club affiliated to Cambridgeshire Football Association. The club delivers football for children aged 6 and above. The club helps with the transition to open age football. Colts football ceases at the end of a player's Under 18 season. Open age football for men in Swavesey is available through Swavesey Institute FC (separate entry in this section of the Meridian). Swavesey Spartans FC have an open age football team for ladies playing league games on a Sunday. For more information about Spartans please contact Paul Clarke (swavesey.chairperson@gmail.com) or Mrs Paula Land (swavesey.secretary@gmail.com
1st Swavesey Scout Group	All sections meet at the Scout Hut on the SVC site **Beavers** Day: Thursday 18:00 to 19:00 Contact: John Pawson - Beaver Leader john.pawson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Cubs** Day: Tuesday 18:15 to 19:30 Contact: Steven Wilson - Cub Leader steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Scouts** Day: Wednesday 19:00 to 20:30 Contact : Marian Bentley - Scout Leader Marian.Bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk For any other enquiries please email info@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre	Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre are based in their own purpose-built unit on the primary school site. It comprises Early Years children (aged from 2 years and 6 Months) between 9am and 3pm (formerly Swavesey Pre School) and we provide activities and care for primary school aged children before and after school. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 am to 9am and After School Club from 3.15pm to 6pm. For information please contact Carol Panther (Early Years and Playwork Manager) by email: eyandp@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk or by phone (01954) 273312 Ext 2 or 07803 812221.
Swavesey Community Choir	If you enjoy singing and having fun then come and join Swavesey Community Choir. We meet every Wednesday in term time in Fen Drayton Village Hall, Cootes Lane, Fen Drayton from 7.45pm - 9.30pm. You don't need to be able to read music and no auditions needed, tenor and bass voices particularly welcome. For further details contact Julie Holmes julieholmes78@gmail.com Website: www.swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk

British Tang Soo Do Institute	British Tang Soo Do Institute practices the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do. Our club training covers self defence techniques and many aspects of fitness including flexibility, coordination, conditioning, balance and discipline helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. For further information please contact Master Jeff Cockram on 07863 345681 or jeff@btsdi.co.uk Or see our website: www.btsdi.com
Swavesey Tang Soo Do Club	Swavesey Tang Soo Do have classes on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Classes are in the primary school main hall at 6pm. The contact details are Master Louise Morton on 07919 050261 or email enquiries@swaveseytsd.co.uk. The website is www.swaveseytsd.co.uk
Allotments in Swavesey	Down Hale Road towards the windmill and on the right there are 61 plots, mostly 150 sq yds (125 m2) in area, backed up by eight water tanks. Large yields of a wide range of high quality vegetable, fruit and flower crops can be grown successfully. If you are interested in joining the waiting list contact Val Sage Tel (01954) 230853
British Legion	For information contact:- Secretary - Angela Dye. (01954) 277453. email: dyeangela0@gmail.com
Swavesey Badminton Club	Located at the Swavesey Village College Sports Centre.The Club offers a high standard of play at club nights on Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm and on Fridays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We play competitive badminton in the Cambridge leagues and run men's, women's and mixed teams.Contact Helen Taylor on (01954) 230997 Email: enquiries@swaveseybadminton.net Website: www.swaveseybadminton.net
Swavesey Billiards and Snooker Club	For information/membership please contact Graeme Waites (01954 230113) Email graham.waites566@btinternet.com
Swavesey Camera Club	At Swavesey Camera Club we are proud to cater for photographers of all standards. For more information visit our website at:- www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk. We meet every Thursday, 7.00 - 9.30pm, 'Carole Shaw Room, SVC. Non-members welcome - £4 charge (first visit free). For further details please ring Simon Shore (01954) 230848
Swavesey Squash Club	Swavesey Squash Club has three international standard squash courts, in our recently refurbished clubhouse, on the Swavesey Village College site. The club has a number of weekly sessions running, suitable for beginners, improvers, and more advanced players. Unlimited use of the facility from £17 a month. A welcoming and active community club with social events and opportunities for competition. Visit our website for more details or contact Ali Loke on 07776 176866/ ali@alilokesquash.com. www.swaveseysquash.com
Swavesey & Over Cycling Club	We meet regularly throughout the year, with rides most weekends and also weekdays on spring and summer evenings. As a Cycling UK affiliated club our goal is to explore a joint passion for cycling in a safe, inclusive and social way. We aim to organise events throughout the year from day & weekend rides in the UK and long weekend trips in Europe. Contact: John Craven Email: socccommittee@gmail.com Facebook: https://bit.ly/3GJCksZ_SOCC or Website: https://swaveseyovercc.wixsite.com/socc

Fireflies Netball Club	Friendly local club, everyone welcome, from back-to-netballers to seasoned players. We have teams playing in CDNL and Fenland Netball leagues. Training is on Tuesdays 7-8:30pm at Northstowe Secondary School. First month is free. £15 per month thereafter. Contact firefliesnetballclub@gmail.com for more information.
Over & Willingham Cricket Club	We have 2 open age (adult) cricket teams in the Cambridgeshire Saturday afternoon league playing 40 over cricket between the start of May and the end of. August. If you are interested in joining our club, please get in touch with one of the club officials, come along to one of our training sessions or approach any club member on our matchdays (Saturday's). Contact Jane Reeson if you are interested. email - reesonhkx46k@aol.com; Telephone 07768 540146; or Facebook - Over and Willingham CC, or Website - overandwillingham.play-cricket.com
Swavesey Music School	Meets every Saturday of term time at Swavesey Village College. For further details see: www.swaveseymusic.co.uk/
Swavesey District Bridleway Association	A liaison group representing local horse riders whose main aim is to protect existing and create safe new horse riding links between all local villages. New members welcome. Regular Newsletter/ Social events calendar. Please contact Sue Rogers (01954) 232758
Swavesey & District History Society	Meet every third Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, Carole Shaw room, SVC. Contact Carolyn Redmayne, Secretary (01954) 230037
Swavesey Institute Football Club	Swavesey Institute FC have 2 teams in the Cambs County Saturday afternoon leagues. For information about the club or if you are interested in playing open age (adult) football for the village please contact Martin Pickering on 07737 391445
Linedance	Linedance classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Bethel Baptist Church 9-30 to 11-30 am. Beginners always welcome. Contact Deborah Walker (01954) 231382 Email: deborahwalker105@talktalk.net
Swavesey & Over Conservation Society	At the moment we organise interesting walks If you need a lift: Phone: Trevor Grange - 01954 230119 or Pat Miles - (01954) 780485. Guests Are Always Welcome!
Swavesey & Over Tennis Club	Swavesey & Over Tennis Club: Club nights are Mondays and Fridays, 6.30-8.30pm. We welcome new members - further information our website https://swaveseyovertennis.wixsite.com/sotc, or you can email us on SwaveseyOverTennis@gmail.com, or call Steve 07393 825027 or Melanie 07453 523999.
Swavesey RADSoc	Friendly local drama group staging two or three productions a year.New members always welcome.Contact: Nathalie Balzano: nathaliewoodward@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.swaveseyradsoc.org.uk
Swavesey W.I.	We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome to enjoy a variety of invited speakers and have a chat and cup of tea/coffee afterwards. For further information contact Margaret Guest tel (01954) 202757
Women's Walking	Women's Walking on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00am. Meet on Market Street green. Walk for approximately one hour on pathways in and around Swavesey. A chance to exercise and chat. - Reasonably robust footwear recommended. All welcome.

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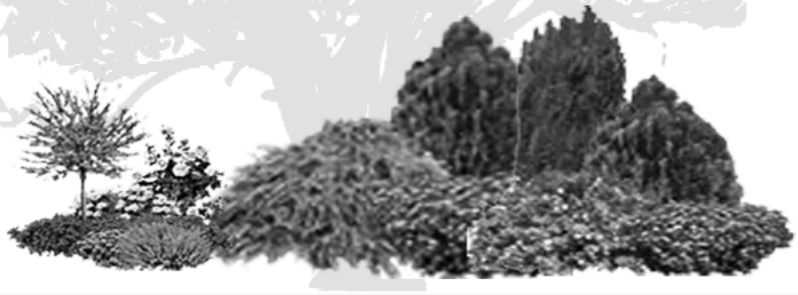

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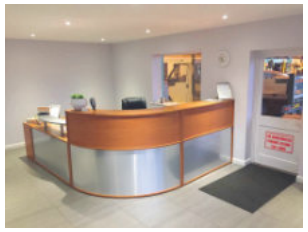

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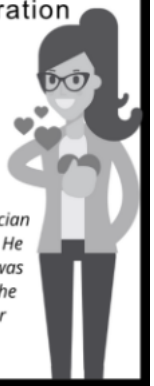

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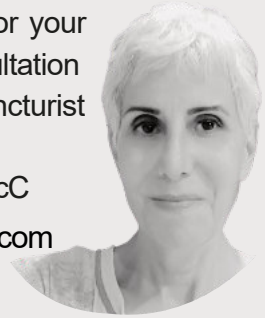

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Please use this form to notify us of any major events you are organising so that we can publish the dates in the magazine and on the website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

It is hoped this will avoid major events clashing on the same day. Please send to the Editor, 14 Black Horse Lane, Swavesey.

Event _____

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Contact Name _____ Tel No. _____

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